

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A container for storing and transporting punches and dies comprising:

a housing having a bottom wall, side walls, a first end wall and second ~~end-walls~~ wall, and an open top that form a hollow interior;

an insert disposable within the hollow interior of the housing, the insert creating a first compartment and defining a second compartment within the hollow interior of the housing; and a retractable door pivotally connected and positioned on the first end wall of the housing to provide access to the second compartment,

the insert having first and second halves detachably joined together along a vertical parting plane such that when joined the first and second halves form a substantially hollow interior and a top wall having a plurality of apertures for receiving punches;

the insert having a means for releasably securing the insert within the container,

the plurality of apertures having slots that form a key hole entry, sloped portions and support members extending upwardly from the slots of the plurality of apertures to facilitate holding punches.

2. (original) The container of claim 1 wherein the insert is adapted to receive punches.

3. (original) The container of claim 1 wherein the second compartment is adapted to receive dies.

4. (original) The container of claim 3 wherein the bottom wall of the housing is sloped to facilitate the unloading of dies.

5. (original) The container of claim 1 wherein the housing is translucent.

6. (original) The container of claim 1 further comprising a lid pivotally connected to the open top of the container.

7. (original) The container of claim 6 wherein the lid is translucent.

8. (original) The container of claim 6 wherein the lid has a plurality of recesses.

9. (currently amended) A housing insert for placement in a container for storing and transporting punches and dies comprising:

first and a second halves detachably joined together along a vertical parting plane such that when joined the first and second halves form a substantially hollow interior and a top wall having a plurality of apertures for receiving the punches; and

a means for releasably securing the insert within the container and

the plurality of apertures having slots that form a key hole entry, sloped portions and support members extending upwardly from the slots of the plurality of apertures to facilitate holding punches.

10. (original) The housing insert of claim 9 wherein the apertures have a keyhole entry and sloped portions.

11. (previously presented) The housing insert of claim 9 wherein at least one aperture of the plurality of apertures is adapted to receive a desiccant tablet.

12. (original) The housing insert of claim 9 wherein the plurality of apertures have support members to facilitate holding the punches.

13. (previously presented) The housing insert of claim 9 wherein the first and second halves are detachably joined by at least one latch securably connected to the first half of the insert engaging an opening in the second half of the insert.

14. (currently amended) A container for storing and transporting punches and dies comprising:

a plurality of housings, each housing having a hollow-interiors interior;

an insert disposed within the hollow ~~interiors~~ interior of each housing of the plurality of housings;

wherein each insert within the hollow ~~interiors~~ of each housing of the plurality of housings creates a first compartment and defines a second compartment within each housing;

a retractable door pivotally connected and positioned to an end wall of each housing to provide access to the second compartment; and
each housing being detachably connected to at least one other housing

wherein each housing has a lid that has notches therein and a bottom having protrusions that extend downwardly from the bottom wall such that the notches on the lid of the housing receive the protrusions from another housing to facilitate stacking of one container on top of another; and wherein at least one housing has dowels that extend outwardly from a sidewall of the housing that are received by openings in a sidewall of another housing.

15. (original) The container of claim 14 wherein at least one housing has a handle securably attached thereto.

16. (original) The container of claim 14 wherein a first housing has a clasp that releasably engages a slot of a second housing.

17. (original) The container of claim 16 wherein a retaining lock is associated with the slot of the second housing and releasably secures the first and second housings together.

18. (cancelled)